



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

SOCIAL, HEALTH & ALZHEIMER'S COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2008

Council Members, Liaisons and Committee Participants Present

Doyle Meredith (Chairperson), Kati Bates, Bill Engler, George Evanoff, Sharon McKinley, Joyce Finkelstein, Paul Herrmann, Bernadine Hoffman, Marilyn Johnson, Doyle Meredith, Bernadette Polley, Barry Spiker, Pam Stevenson, Linda Anderson, Karla Averill, David Besst, Elton Bordenave, David Coon, Bonnie Danowski, Gwen Dean, Valerie Fifield, Paulette Fraenkel, Archie Mariano, Michele Michaels, Julie Ngiriye, Kathy Rood, Diana Toussaint, Gary Warner, Andrew Weiler

Council Members Not Present

Lynn Adler

Council Staff Present

Melanie Starns, Cathy De Lisa, Shawn Trobia, Dan Plumhoff, Elsa Gaynor

Guests Present

Becca Bailey (ACDHH), Eric Thomas (DES), Victoria Grando (ASU), Kathy Lindstrom (ASU), Greta Mang (DES)

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Doyle Meredith called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m., and a welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the November 1, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved through a motion made by Bill Engler and seconded by Bernadine Hoffman. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items Follow Up

There were no action items carried over from the November 1, 2007 Committee meeting.

Sub-Committee Reports and Group Discussion

Falls Prevention

Sub-Committee Co-Chair Diana Toussaint reported that the group met on the 4th and 17th of December, 2007 and is working diligently to complete their Conference Track. They are currently in the process of finalizing their speakers, outlines, and selection of a Pre-Conference session for para-professionals, while continuing to identify potential sponsorship for that session.

Informal Caregiving

Sub-Committee Co-Chair David Besst reported that the group has identified its Plenary and Breakout Session topics, and are in the process of refining both the topics and the workshop content. They are currently identifying leaders for each group, and soliciting potential speakers. Mr. Besst introduced and the Council welcomed Mr. Eric Thomas, who is the new Lifespan Respite Coordinator at DES Division of Aging and Adult Services.

Meet in Sub-Committees

The Falls Prevention Sub-Committee and the Informal Caregiving Sub-Committee met in their individual groups for approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes.

Report Out from Sub-Committees

Falls Prevention Sub-Committee

Sub-Committee Co-Chair Diana Toussaint reported that the Falls Prevention Sub-Committee approved the minutes from their December 4, 2007 meeting, has reviewed their list of tracks, determined their target audience for each, and decided upon conducting a Pre-Conference session for paraprofessionals. Additionally, the group has confirmed the track speakers, and determined all corresponding timeframes. Ms. Toussaint noted that they have discussed potential sponsorship for the pre-conference intensive, and a work group will be meeting again within the next two weeks.

Informal Caregiving Sub-Committee:

Sub-Committee Co-Chair David Besst reported that the Informal Caregiving Sub-Committee approved the minutes from their December 11, 2007 meeting, has reviewed the five work group proposed sessions and speakers, and clarified the procedures for soliciting both sponsors and speakers. Mr. Besst noted that the group is making good progress.

Other Updates/New Business/Announcements

Presentation by Ms. Becca Bailey (ACDHH)

Committee Chair Doyle Meredith introduced Ms. Becca Bailey of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, who provided the committee with an overview of the current plans underway by the Arizona Deaf Senior Citizens Coalition to build an affordable retirement housing project for the deaf and blind located at Apache Blvd. and the east Loop 101 in Tempe, AZ. The housing project, named "Apache Trails," will be built in two phases of 75 one and two bedroom low-income and affordable housing units for rent, and fifty units available for purchase. Apache Trails will consist of two separate wings that will house 80% seniors (55 and older) and 20% non-seniors, and Ms. Bailey noted that the home is wheel chair accessible and will be a great environment for folks using American Sign Language. Additionally, a phased-in assisted living program is in its planning stages; HUD subsidization is yet to be determined. Ms. Bailey answered numerous questions from Council members and Committee participants and she provided a brief overview of the deaf and blind friendly devices and services to be installed, citing that the homes will incorporate video phones in each unit, signage posted in Braille, and a lighting alert system throughout. Furthermore, Ms. Bailey stated that the housing project is currently accepting

applications and that building is tentatively scheduled to begin in the spring of 2009, and will be ready for occupancy in 2010. Copies of Ms. Bailey's handout and the application for residency are attached.

David Besst (DES) responded to questions about the Evercare Alzheimer's Advantage Plan, which offers direct support for caregivers, and announced that his organization is currently working with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to ensure the new plan's proper documentation. Mr. Besst noted that he will provide more information on this at a future time, and he reminded the Committee about the upcoming March 13, 2008 Caregiver Coalition Rally at the Capitol Mall.

Executive Director Melanie Starns distributed additional flyers for the upcoming Governor's Conference on Aging on May 14 -16, 2008 at the Mesa Marriott, and noted that electronic versions of the flyer will also be sent out via e-mail.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Doyle Meredith at 4:28 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 7, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in the State Executive Tower, First Floor Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.